

REMARKS

This paper is prepared in response to the Advisory Action dated June 30, 2008 and the Final Office Action dated April 10, 2008. Currently, claims 1-12, 21, 22 and 24-31 are pending in the application, wherein claims 1-12, 21, 22 and 24-31 have been rejected. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9 and 21-22 have been amended, and claims 32-34 have been added with this paper. No new matter has been added. Favorable consideration of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12, 21, 22 and 24-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Sharrow, U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2004/0167438. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1 and 3 each recite a method of manufacturing a medical device in which the final medical device is manufactured to include an outermost surface having a helical ridge extending around a circumference of the outermost surface formed at least in part by the coil.

Sharrow at least fails to teach these elements of the method of the claims. Sharrow discloses several alternative ways in which the reinforcing member (i.e, braid or coil) is embedded within the jacket 20. These various ways are discussed throughout paragraph 37 of Sharrow. Throughout this paragraph, the reinforcing member is taught as being “disposed over” or “placed over” the jacket 20. With the reinforcing member “disposed over” or “placed over” the jacket 20, additional jacket material is placed over the reinforcing member such that the reinforcing member is located between two layers or portions of the jacket. At no point does Sharrow indicate that the final medical device is manufactured to include an outermost surface having a helical ridge extending around a circumference of the outermost surface formed at least in part by a coil. In fact, the figures of Sharrow illustrate that the portion of the jacket disposed over the reinforcing member provides a smooth outer surface to the guidewire.

For at least these reasons, Sharrow does not anticipate either claim 1 or claim 3. Claims 2, 6 and 24, which depend from one of claims 1 and 3 and which include additional limitations, are also believed allowable over the teachings of Sharrow for at least the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 recites that the coil includes a central metallic core material and an outer coating surrounding the central metallic core material. At no point does Sharrow disclose a coil including a central metallic core material and an outer coating surrounding the central metallic core material.

In attempting to identify the portion of Sharrow relied on as teaching a central core material and an outer coating surround the central core material, specific reference was made to paragraph 39 of Sharrow in which it was disclosed that “the material of the braid 12 can be blended with a liquid crystal polymer (LCP).” Applicants respectfully assert this teaching of Sharrow fails to teach a coil including a central metallic core material and an outer coating surrounding the central metallic core material as currently claimed in claim 4.

For at least these reasons, Sharrow does not anticipate claim 4. Claims 5 and 25, which depend from claim 4 and which include additional limitations, are also believed allowable over the teachings of Sharrow for at least the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 7, 8, 9, 21 and 22 each recite a method of manufacturing a guidewire in which the guidewire is manufactured to include an outermost surface having a helical ridge extending around a circumference of the outermost surface formed at least in part by the coil.

Sharrow at least fails to teach these elements of the method of the claims. Sharrow discloses several alternative ways in which the reinforcing member (i.e, braid or coil) is fully or partially embedded within the jacket 20. These various ways are discussed throughout paragraph 37 of Sharrow. Throughout this paragraph, the reinforcing member is taught as being “disposed over” or “placed over” the jacket 20. With the reinforcing member “disposed over” or “placed over” the jacket 20, additional jacket material is placed over the reinforcing member such that the reinforcing member is located between two layers or portions of the jacket. At no point does Sharrow indicate that the final medical device is manufactured to include an outermost surface having a helical ridge extending around a circumference of the outermost surface formed at least in part by a coil. In fact, the figures of Sharrow illustrate that the portion of the jacket disposed over the reinforcing member provides a smooth outer surface to the guidewire.

For at least these reasons, Sharrow does not anticipate any of claims 7, 8, 9, 21 and 22. Claims 10-12 and 26-31, which depend from one of claims 7, 8, 9, 21 and 22 and which include

additional limitations, are also believed allowable over the teachings of Sharrow for at least the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Newly added claims 32-34, which depend from one of claims 7, 8 and 9, are believed allowable over the teachings of Sharrow for at least the reasons stated above. Favorable consideration of these claims is respectfully requested.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

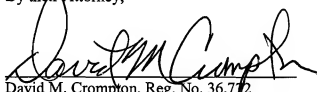
Respectfully submitted,

Brian R. Reynolds et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: _____

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